

Originally known as the Wiehle Town Hall, the A. Smith Bowman Distillery has served as the focal point for the surrounding community since its construction in circa 1892. As originally erected, the first floor of the building was used as the town hall, while the second floor served as the Wiehle Methodist Episcopal Church. The town hall ceased to function as such in 1909, serving until 1927 as a dwelling and specialty store. In 1927, A. Smith Bowman purchased the town, engaging its small population in fox hunts and the only legal whiskey distillery in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The first Master of the Fox Hounds, Bowman founded the first hunt in Fairfax County. In 1934, with the repeal of prohibition, the former town hall was renovated to serve as a distillery, where large oak barrels of bourbon and whiskey were aged for months at a time. It continued as a distillery until the 1950s.

**Nomination Form** 



## **Bowman's Distillery**

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places December 9, 1999

